

Pontiac Enterprises, LTD.
Warwick, Rhode Island

CERCLIS No. RID069857514
Site ID No. 0101258

The Pontiac Enterprises, LTD. property (property) is located at 334 Knight Street in Warwick, Kent County, Rhode Island. The 28.5-acre property is comprised of three lots; Lot 204 (12 acres); Lot 38 (8 acres); and Lot 52 (8.5 acres). The property currently has two owners: Pontiac Enterprises LTD. (Lot 204) and Towanda Associates Inc. (Lots 38 and 52). An inactive, unlined, and uncovered 8-acre landfill occupies the northern portions of all three lots. The western section of Lot 204 is occupied by the Pontiac Mills complex. The remainder of Lots 38 and 52 are vacant and heavily vegetated. The property is bordered to the north by Knight Street; to the east by an access road that leads to the Warwick Department of Public Works (DPW) sewage pumping station; to the west by Route 5; and to the south by Pawtuxet River.

From the late 1800s to 1970, textile operations occurred at this site, including bleaching, dyeing, and printing color fabrics. Reportedly, liquid wastes were collected in floor drains that discharged to an on-site lagoon. At an unknown date, liquid wastes were collected in an above-ground storage tank (AST) in the mill basement, treated, and discharged to the Warwick sewage system. From 1974 to 1977, landfilling operations were conducted at the property by Capuano Brothers. Wastes accepted at the landfill included shredded auto seats, non-metallic metal processing waste, shredded oil-filled auto components, tires, foam rubber, construction waste, brush, wood, paper, scrap metal, and unknown industrial and domestic wastes. Between 1974 and 1977, Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) recorded several violations at the landfill and Rhode Island Department of Natural Resources, now Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM), issued two orders to cease landfilling. Inactive underground storage tanks (USTs), numerous 55-gallon drums, and evidence of illegal dumping of wastes were observed on the property. In 1977, the landfill ceased operations. Currently, the mill complex is leased and occupied by small businesses, including artisans, craftsmen, and retailers.

Previous investigation at the property include a Preliminary Assessment (PA) conducted in 1986; a Resource Conservation and Recovery (RCRA) inspection in 1987; sampling of landfill in 1988; a preliminary environmental assessment conducted by Goldberg-Zoino & Associated, Inc. (GZA) for Pontiac Enterprises in 1989; a Screening Site Inspection (SSI) in 1991; and a Site Inspection Prioritization (SIP) in 1995.

There are no public groundwater wells within 4-radial miles of the property. The estimated population served by private groundwater wells within 4-radial miles of the property is 1,084. No information was available regarding the nearest private drinking water supply well but there are no private wells located within 0.5-radial miles of the property. Groundwater occurs in overburden at a depth of approximately 4 to 11 feet below ground surface (bgs), and flows southeast across the property to Pawtuxet River. Analytical results of groundwater samples collected from on-site monitoring wells in 1989 by GZA, indicated the presence of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and solvents. No impacts to nearby groundwater drinking water supply sources are known or suspected.

Surface water on the western side of the property flows southeast to Pawtuxet River, and from the eastern side of the property to an on-site wetland and pond that drains into Pawtuxet River. The downstream surface water pathway flows from Pawtuxet River, into Providence River, and then into Narragansett Bay. No drinking water intakes are located along the 15-mile downstream surface water pathway. Approximately 2.4 miles of wetland frontage and no known Federal- or State-listed endangered or threatened species habitats occur along the downstream pathway. Analytical results of sediment samples collected from the property in 1994 by CDM Federal indicated the presence of polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), pesticides, polychlorinated bipheyls (PCBs), and inorganics (antimony, arsenic, barium, beryllium, cadmium, chromium, cobalt, copper, manganese, mercury, nickel, silver, and zinc). No impacts to nearby sensitive environments are known or suspected.

Approximately 300 employees work on the property. Approximately 7,529 people reside within 1-radial mile of the property. The nearest residence is located on Knight Street approximately 30 feet from the property. There are no schools or day-care facilities located within 200 feet of the property. There is a wetland sensitive environment located on the property. Access to the property is restricted by chainlink fencing. Analytical results of soil samples collected from the property between 1988 and 1999 have indicated the presence of PCBs, VOCs, semivolatile organic compounds (SVOCs), dyes and pigment wastes, pesticides, solvents, and inorganic compounds. Based on the site observations and



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conditions, no impacts to nearby residential populations are known or suspected.

An estimated 131,243 people, approximately 2,065 acres of wetlands, and no known Federal- or State-listed endangered or threatened species habitats occur within 4-radial miles of the property. No laboratory qualitative air samples are known to have been collected from the property. Based on the available data, no impacts to nearby residential populations or sensitive environments are known or suspected.

The last known investigation at the Pontiac Enterprises LTD. property was the SIP completed in 1995. The last known action at the property was a remedial evaluation report conducted by Fuss & O'Neill, Inc. for RIDEM in 1999. According to available sources, the property has an unknown status under RIDEM.